

JOINT INFORMATION CENTER COVID-19



News Release

Media Contact: Rissah Watkins Frederick County Health Department <u>JIC@FrederickCountyMD.Gov</u> 301-600-7662 * TTY Use Maryland Relay

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Frederick County Agency Updates for February 2, 2021

Frederick, MD - February 2, 2021

Frederick County Health Department:

 1st Dose Given
 2nd Dose Given

 22,012
 3,629

 Confirmed Cases
 Confirmed Deaths

 15,722
 237

 Change in Last 24 Hours: +76
 Change in Last 24 Hours: +0

7-Day Positivity Rate
6.2%

Note: The number of doses of vaccine given includes all vaccinators in the county except for CVS/Walgreens vaccinations at nursing home and assisted living facilities.

Please check our dashboard for daily statistics: http://FrederickCountyMD.gov/COVIDstats.

Update on COVID-19 Vaccine:

12,150 total 1st doses of COVID-19 vaccine received by <u>Frederick County Health Department</u> to date 1,300 1st doses of COVID-19 vaccine received by <u>Frederick County Health Department</u> this week 46,116 total Vaccine Interest Forms submitted

-more-



Page 2/JIC

Currently eligible: People in groups 1A, 1B, and 1C are currently eligible, but there is not enough vaccine for everyone who is eligible. Once your group is eligible, it continues to stay eligible.

Currently vaccinating: Frederick County is currently vaccinating people in group 1A and those who are 75 years and older who live or work in Frederick County. At least 100 educators will be vaccinated each week in a randomized selection.

Current Process - Pre-Registering System

Anyone who lives or works in Frederick County who is interested in getting COVID-19 vaccine should complete the Vaccine Interest Form in the blue box on our <u>Vaccine webpage</u>.

Completing this form does NOT make an appointment for you to get the vaccine.

- We will contact people who have registered on this form by priority group as we receive more vaccine.
- You will be contacted by the email you provide in the form. When you are contacted, you will need to register for your appointment online.
- You only need to complete the form once.
- o It may be several days, weeks, or longer until you are contacted since it depends on vaccine availability.
- o If you receive an email with a link to a clinic, please *do not share that link*. Sharing or posting clinic links takes appointments away from people who are in higher priority groups and is not fair for others. Please be considerate of our community.

Frequently Asked Questions

- I received an email to register for an appointment and when I completed all the screens, all the appointments were already full. What happened?
 - Due to the last minute scheduling and concern that not enough people would sign up, the scheduler sent the invitation to all persons who were pre-registered in the education group. For future clinics, the invitations will be sent to a randomly selected number of persons who pre-registered, a number that more closely matches the available appointments. You will need to complete the registration again. Tip: pay attention to which fields are require. Scanning your insurance cards is not required.
- I'm immunocompromised. Should I be in 1C?
 - Severely immunocompromised individuals who are receiving treatment in a hospital will be eligible for vaccines in Phase 1C if they have a medical condition putting them at higher risk for developing complications of COVID-19: The conditions include cancer, end-stage renal disease requiring hemodialysis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, solid organ transplant, sickle cell disease, diabetes (type 1 or type 2). These individuals will receive the vaccine in the hospital. If you are not receiving treatment in a hospital, you are in priority group 2 according to the state plan.

-more-



Page 3/JIC

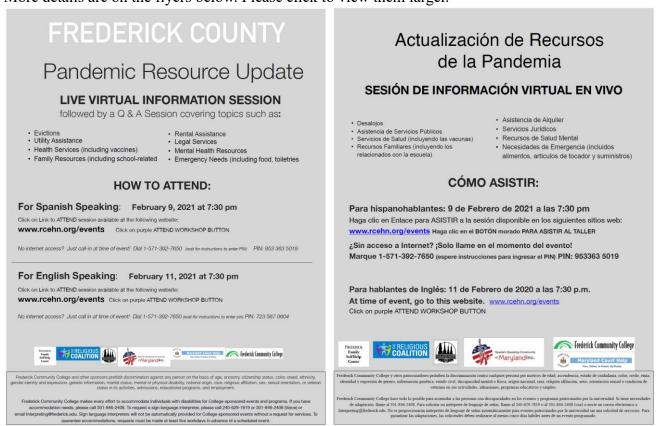
Assistance for Frederick County

Representatives from Frederick County Circuit Court's Family Self Help Center, Spanish Speaking Community, Religious Coalition, Bar Association of Frederick County, Maryland Help Center and Frederick Community College will be offering a virtual information session followed by a Q&A session. The topics will include a brief overview of eviction law, rental assistance, utility assistance, mental health resources, legal services and health related resources.

- For Spanish Speakers: February 9 at 7:30pm
- For English Speakers: February 11 at 7:30pm

To attend, go to <u>www.rcehn.org/events</u> and click on the purple ATTEND WORKSHOP BUTTON No internet access? Just call in at time of event! Dial 1-571-392-7650 (wait for instructions to enter PIN) PIN for Spanish session: 953 363 5019, for English: 723 567 0604.

More details are on the flyers below. Please click to view them larger.



-more-



Page 4/JIC

<u>SNAP/Food Stamps Legal Help Hotline:</u> The Homeless Persons Representation Project (HPRP) has launched a hotline to provide free legal help for Maryland families in order to get and keep their SNAP benefits. HPRP has created flyers in <u>English</u> and <u>Spanish</u> with more information.

<u>Fuel Fund</u>: For those who need help with their energy bills and have already used OHEP or are over income for OHEP, Fuel Fund may be another option. <u>The Fuel Fund of Maryland</u> assists <u>income eligible</u> BGE customers with paying their utility bills after they complete OHEP (the person has received receipt of grants or has been denied for over income). They have recently instituted some new rules that impact process and eligibility to effectively respond to the pandemic.

- o Waived the need for a turn off notice through 6/30/2021.
- Waived the need for seniors (age 60+) to complete OHEP before getting assistance from the Fuel Fund of Maryland through 6/30/2021. They will mail the consumer an OHEP application as needed.

<u>Bulk Fuel Assistance</u>: The Fuel Fund of Maryland helps with bulk fuel assistance for the entire state, see the attachment. For more information about the Fuel Fund or to apply for help, <u>visit their website to fill out an application</u> or call 410-235-9080 for assistance.

<u>Saving Money on Energy Costs</u>: The <u>Department of Energy</u> has <u>information on how to save money on energy costs in your home</u>. Many of the strategies are free, while others might be inexpensive actions you can take to maximize savings during the winter months.

<u>Weatherization</u>: The <u>Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development</u> offers programs that provide homeowners of all income levels with resources to improve their home's energy efficiency. Their programs can help with insulation, hot water system improvements, furnace repair or replacement, renewable energy systems, and other health and safety enhancement. <u>Click here</u> to check out all of their weatherization programs.

<u>Energy Assistance Toolkit</u>: The <u>Office of People's Counsel</u> has created an <u>energy assistance</u> toolkit to help Maryland households facing utility turn-off notices keep their power on. This toolkit includes videos on how to fill out the Office of Home Energy Programs application, application forms, and resource guides.

For more information:

Frederick County residents can call 866-411-6803 to reach our local 211 center with general questions about coronavirus or COVID19. Accurate COVID-19 information is critical to the community. For the most current and accurate information about this situation, please refer to the following:

- City of Frederick: https://cityoffrederickmd.gov/covid19
- Frederick County Government: <u>www.frederickcountymd.gov/Coronavirus</u>
- Frederick County Health Department: <u>health.frederickcountymd.gov/coronavirus</u>
- Maryland Department of Health (MDH): coronavirus.maryland.gov
- Centers for Disease Control (CDC): coronavirus.gov

###